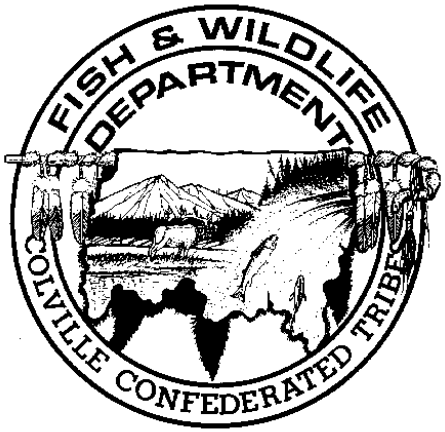
Colville Confederated Tribes



PCSRF 2002 Workshop

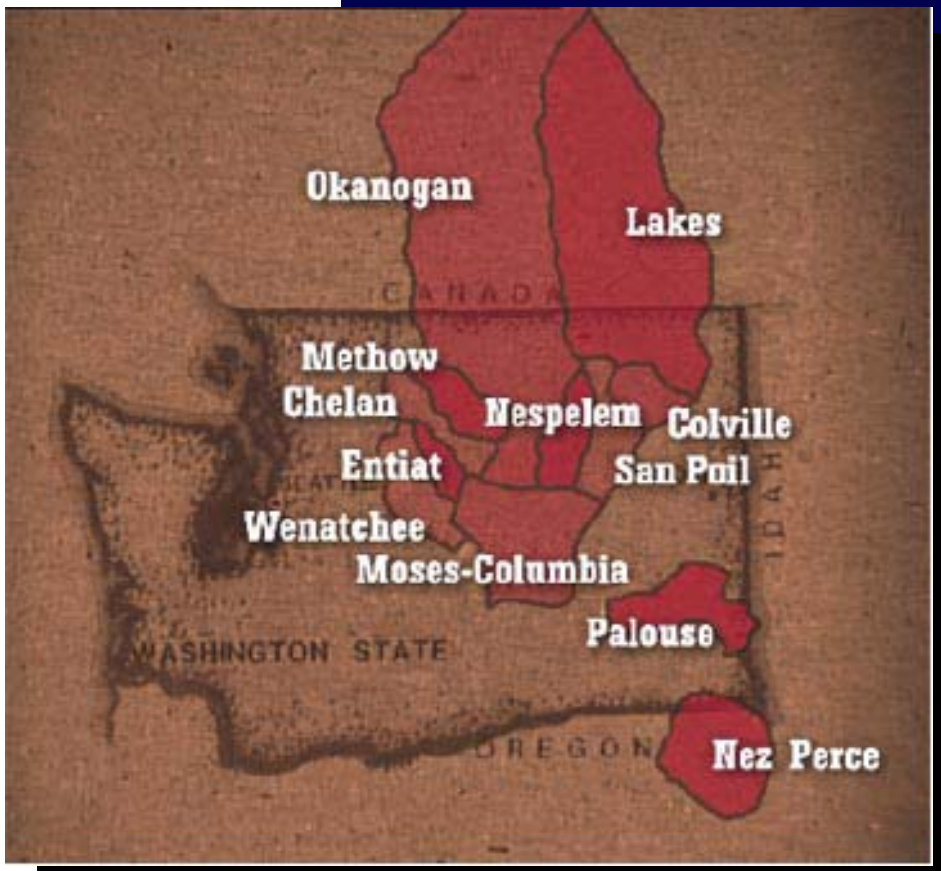
The Colville Tribes' Integrated Plan for Anadromous Fish Recovery

The Vital Role of the PCSRF in Implementing the Colville Tribes' Long-Term Recovery Strategies

Presentation Overview

- The Colville Confederated Tribes
- Importance of the Okanogan Basin to Anadromous Fish Recovery Efforts
- The Colville Tribes' Anadromous Fish Recovery Work
- Role of PCSRF in Implementing Colville Tribes' Recovery Plan - Highlights from Omak Creek

The Colville Confederated Tribes



- The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation are comprised of 12 distinct tribes

The Colville Confederated Tribes

- Established by Presidential Executive Order in 1872, over 8,700 descendants of the 12 tribes are currently enrolled members of the Colville Tribes

The Colville Confederated Tribes

- The Colville Tribes once managed one of the largest fisheries in the Columbia Basin at Kettle Falls

The Colville Confederated Tribes

- The major fisheries in the upper Columbia basin including the Columbia, Wenatchee, Okanogan, San Poil and Spokane rivers, provided salmon for the largest concentration of Indians in the entire Columbia Basin

The Colville Confederated Tribes

- The construction of Grand Coulee Dam blocked 1,140 lineal miles of habitat above the dam to anadromous fish passage

The Colville Confederated Tribes


Ceremony of Tears 1939

- The approximate run size lost as a result of construction of Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph dams is conservatively estimated at 930,600 salmon and steelhead annually

The Colville Confederated Tribes

Colville Trust Fisheries

- The only remaining annual fishery is a summer chinook hook & line (snag) fishery at the base of Chief Joseph Dam
- 10-year average annual harvest at Chief Joseph Dam is 500 summer chinook and 130 steelhead
- Compared to a 10-year average annual harvest in Zone 6 tribal fisheries of 20,000 spring chinook, 29,000 steelhead, 49,000 fall chinook, 2,800 coho

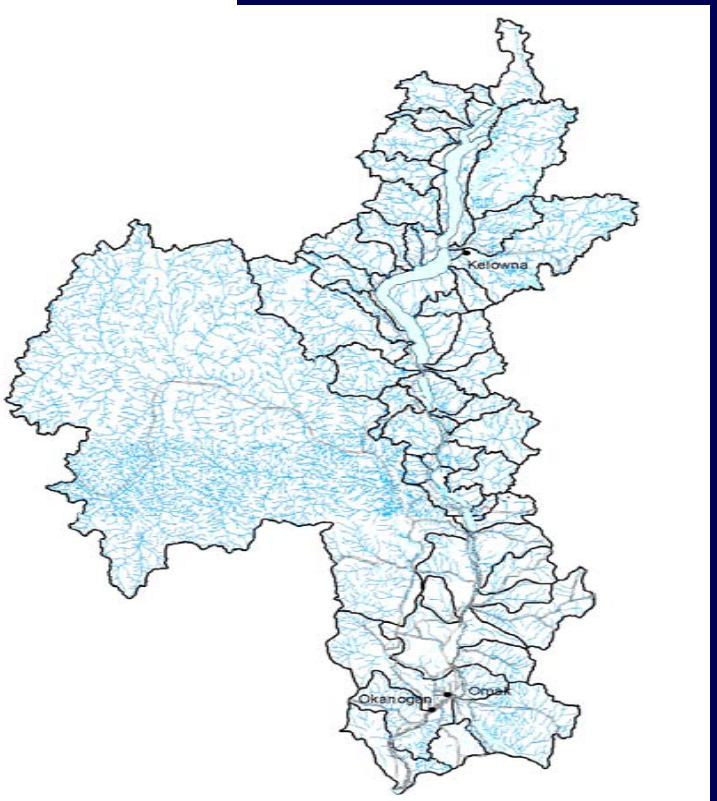
The Colville Confederated Tribes

- Restoring historic subsistence and ceremonial fisheries is of the utmost importance to our tribal members

Okanogan Basin

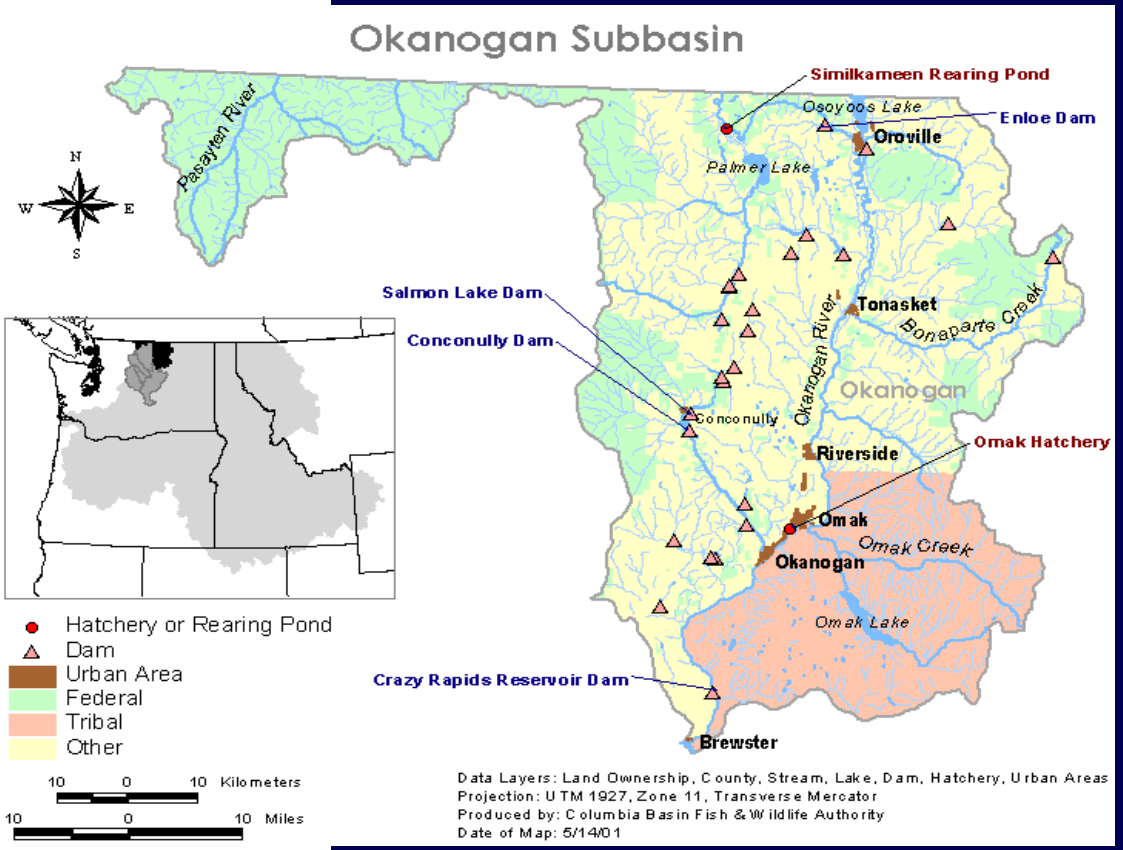
- The Okanogan Basin is a vital key to the successful restoration of anadromous salmonids in the upper Columbia

Okanogan Basin



- The Okanogan basin is the single largest sub-watershed in the Columbia River basin.
- It includes the uppermost tributary of the Columbia River currently available to anadromous salmonids

Okanogan Basin



- The Okanogan River supports runs of summer chinook, sockeye salmon, and summer steelhead

Okanogan Basin

- Okanogan basin is 8,000 square miles
- 6,200 of those miles are in Canada
- Factors limiting salmon survival and productivity extend across the border to Canada
- Transborder coordination is a central component of the Colville Tribes' Okanogan Basin recovery strategy

Okanogan Basin

- Primary limiting factors include downstream hydropower projects, water quality, water temperature, degraded habitat, and impediments to passage
- Passage issues are of particular concern in the Canadian portion of the basin
- Substantial portions of important habitat in the U.S. portion of the basin is privately owned

Anadromous Fish Recovery

2001-2002 PCSRF Projects

1. Omak Creek Ground Water Supplementation - Feasibility Study
2. Steelhead Kelt Reconditioning Feasibility Study
3. Salmon Recovery Outreach, Planning & Coordination
4. Omak Creek Acclimation Site
5. Okanogan River Steelhead Broodstock

2002-2003 PCSRF Projects

- 1. Omak Creek Habitat Acquisition & Restoration
- Okanogan Summer Chinook Acclimation Pond
- Omak Creek Summer Steelhead Habitat/Passage Project

2002-2003 PCSRF Projects

4. Conduct Monitoring & Evaluation of Project Measures Associated with Recovery & Restoration of Anadromous Fish in Omak Creek
5. Upper Columbia Basin Salmon Recovery, Restoration & Enhancement Planning & Coordination

Education & Outreach

- Expanding public & private support for salmon recovery and restoration activities through education, partnership development, and innovative "win-win" strategies is essential to achieving salmon recovery and restoration goals

Outreach & Education

- Education, outreach and coordination are:
  - ✓ Important to bridging the generational loss of a relationship to salmon - for both tribal and non tribal youth
  - ✓ Key to building stronger, more flexible partnerships
  - ✓ Valuable in quelling fear-based opposition to recovery and restoration activities

Outreach & Education

- Educational Materials
- Salmon Festivals
- Salmon Summits & Conferences
- Presentations at Workshops, Board Meetings, and Other Events

Planning & Coordination

- Increase participation in regional & local salmon recovery planning activities e.g. -- TRT, RTT, UCSRB
- Coordination with and among, subbasin planning, 2514, and 2496 processes
- Transboundary Cooperation
  - ✓ Bi-lateral Okanogan Basin Technical Working Group
  - ✓ Dissolved Gas Group

Species Specific Strategies

- Summer / Fall Chinook
- Steelhead
- Spring Chinook
- Sockeye

Summer / Fall Chinook

- HGMP Draft
- Construct facilities at Chief Joseph Dam to increase abundance, distribution & diversity
- Expand acclimation sites
  - ✓ Disperse Similkameen chinook to Bonaparte Pond
  - ✓ Reprogram PUD summers to Tonasket Pond
  - ✓ Localized natural broodstock
- Integrate fall chinook production

Steelhead

- HGMP draft
- Broodstock collection
- Kelt Reconditioning
- Stock steelhead into restored tributary habitats

Spring Chinook (extirpated)

- Restore Omak & Salmon creek spring chinook
- Spring chinook in Lake Osoyoos
- Draft HGMP
- Chief Joseph
- Carson stock spring chinook
- Methow composite spring chinook

Spring Chinook (extirpated)

- Phase I
  - 500,000 Smolts
  - Use existing hatchery
  - Use existing acclimation pond
  - Osoyoos net pens
  - Test suitability of Okanogan habitat

Spring Chinook (extirpated)

- Phase II
  - ESA “experimental population”
  - Contribute to de-listing
  - Harvest on hatchery fish with selective gear

Sockeye

- Control disease and exotics
- Restore access to historical habitat
- Restore sockeye habitat above Lake Osoyoos
- Transboundary coordination

Omak Creek Project Highlights

Together with ongoing outreach, education, coordination, and planning, activities - the following projects on Omak Creek represent how PCSRF enable the CTCR to implement a broad-based long-term anadromous fish recovery plan in the Okanogan basin.

Omak Creek Acclimation Site

- Beginning in 2001 a yearly out-plant of 50,000 Carson stock spring chinook smolts will be released into Omak Creek. Project includes:
  - ✓ Site survey
  - ✓ Design and specification of facility
  - ✓ Construction of facility

Feasibility of Steelhead Kelt Reconditioning

- Feasibility Study
  - ✓ Identify potential recovery benefits for steelhead in Okanogan Watershed
  - ✓ Identify potential sites for collection and conditioning programs

Okanogan River Steelhead Broodstock

- 100,000 Wells stock steelhead yearlings currently out-planted into Okanogan River and tributaries
  - ✓ Project to develop localized steelhead broodstock
  - ✓ HGMP currently in draft
  - ✓ Important link to Kelt reconditioning proposal

Research, Monitoring & Evaluation Omak Creek

- Monitor condition of riparian enhancements on Omak Creek
- Monitor summer steelhead spawning activities in Omak Creek
- Estimate timing and survival of juvenile steelhead in Omak Creek
- Estimate juvenile salmonid abundance, distribution and rearing densities

Thank you!